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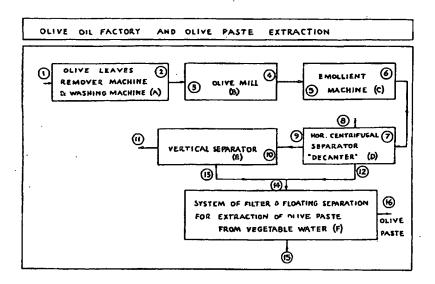
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(54) Title: METHOD OF EXTRACTION OF OLIVE PASTE FROM VEGETABLE WATER AND ITS USE AS A FOODSTUFF



#### (57) Abstract

The olive paste is a by-product of olives and is extracted from the vegetable water, the latter being up to now treated as liquid waste in olive oil factories. The density of olive paste within vegetable water is 3-5 % and the former is in the form of floating solid particles. The above method is the result of several procedures of extraction and culminates into an edible product, not a by-product anymore considered hazardous for the environment. The aforementioned foodstuff product is of high nutritional value. It is the result of a very simple process and it is readily mixable with other edible products.

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WO 97/28089 PCT/GR96/00002

# METHOD OF EXTRACTION OF OLIVE PASTE FROM VEGETABLE WATER AND ITS USE AS A FOODSTUFF

The present invention concerns the use of an olive by product, contained in the form of floating particles in a percentage of 3-5% within the liquid wastes of horizontal and vertical olive oil factory separators, as a foodstuff.

To the best of our knowledge, such a method as the above does not exist up to the present, a proof of which is the fact that olive oil producers get rid of the liquid wastes instead of utilizing them for the production of an edible product. Such wasting of this liquid mass results not only into the loss of a very valuable product, but to the contribution of heavy environmental pollution as well.

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The present method achieves the extraction of olive paste from those liquid wastes in such a way that it converts a by product into a product of high nutritional value and furthermore it eliminates a serious problem of uncontrollable pollution.

These liquid wastes are a serious concern for olive oil producers primarily because the final recipients are rivers and the sea.

The advantages of this innovative method are the generation of an additional income, as well as the simplification and improvement of the further process stages for neutralization of the liquid waste and adsorption by nature. Olive paste may be produced within any centrifugal olive oil factory system.

Figure 1 is a schematic of an olive oil factory. Olives enter the olive leaves remover and washing machines A at point 1 where the leaves are removed and the fruit are washed. Subsequently the olives exit at point 2 and enter point 3 of the olive mill B where they exit from point 4 and enter through point 5 of the emollient machine C in pulp form. Following the emollescence, the

pulp mass exits point 6 entering point 7 of the horizontal centrifugal separator, «decanter» D. This decanter is a three phase device b cause it separates the olive pulp into its three constituents via centrifuging: olive oil, vegetable water and oil kernel. Each one of the above constituents leaves the decanter from point 9, point 12 and point 8, respectively, in a continuous flow. The oil enters the vertical separator E at point 10 for extra purification. This results in the production of pure oil at point 11.

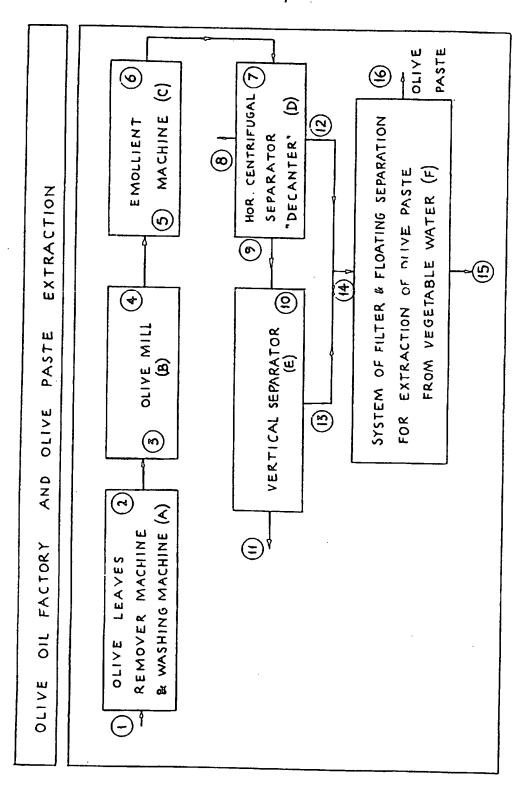
Subsequently, vegetable water leaves both the horizontal and vertical centrifugal separators at points 12 and 13, respectively, culminating into a system F of filter and floating separation for extraction of olive paste from vegetable water. Such a separation can be achieved through filtering, sinking tanks and centrifuging independently or in conjunction with one another. Vegetable water exits through point 15 for further neutralization in subsequent process stages. Olive paste is extracted through point 16 and can be transported for further processing at standard production plants.

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#### CLAIMS

- 1. Method of extraction of olive paste from vegetable water found in olive oil factories characterized in that an edible paste is produced which is of nutritional value.
- 5 2. Method of extraction of olive paste from vegetable water found in olive oil factories as claimed in Claim 1, characterized in that prior to reaching the waste draining stage and immediately after exiting the centrifuging stage of olive oil factories, the olive floating particles are separated from waste fluids through filtering, sinking tanks and centrifuging independently, or in conjunction with one another.



FIGURE

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A. CLASSIFICATI N OF SUBJECT MATTER
1PC 6 C02F1/00 C11B13 C11B13/00 A23L1/212 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC **B. FIELDS SEARCHED** Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) A23L C11B CO2F Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category " Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. X US 4 370 274 A (FINCH HARVEY E ET AL) 25 1,2 January 1983 see figure 1 see column 4, line 10 - column 5, line 26 X WO 92 11206 A (TICON VVS A S) 9 July 1992 1.2 see page 1, line 1 - page 3, line 18 see page 4, line 15 - page 7, line 30 see page 13, line 25 - line 33 X EP 0 686 353 A (FLOTTWEG GMBH) 13 December 1.2 1995 see figures see column 6, line 13 - column 8, line 26 -/--Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance 'E' earlier document but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to filing date 'L' document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another cranon or other special reason (as specified) involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person stilled 'O' document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 27 September 1996 09.10.1997 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentiaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswyt Tel. ( - 31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo ni, Fax ( + 31-70) 340-3016 Vuillamy, V

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